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The Explosions That Wrecked the Maine.

before the wreck can be raised and struction of the Maine.

is borne out, it is claimed, by the existences already whole world. developed. It has been found that in the mud and allt surrounding the bull of the Maine there is a great quantity of coal. Human bones have also Beyed, establishes that no outside force could have been used to blow up the vessel

convincing evidence, that there were will be a mighty aid. two explosions about 9:40 P. M. on Feb- The German theatre here must always by the bow:

plosion was more open, prolonged, and of greater Maine

was witnessed by Mr. Sigmond Roth- plays must be of unusual potency. SCHILD, a tobacco merchant. He de-

we had been, right near the smoking room."

Dera heard an explosion that "seemed tre devoted to drama in German. to be a shot," and then "a tremendous! It is not alone the lack of conspicucourt stated:

"The outside bottom plating is bent into a same plating, extending forward."

In all ten divers were sent down on all about it, making observations and audiences. Then there has been a pracreporting to Ensign W. V. N. Power- tical monotony of lighter plays that has plating and the wreckage. The testimony many years of experience, showed them of the German theatre in New York if bility. They were questioned closely, German plays by the best known authors aster, not only as to their recollections cently, perhaps even as good as they may votes or to ascertain the existence of it, but also as to the care of the coal were in the old days -if there is to be a of a quorum. The first roll call was on burkers and magazines and the state revival of the German theatre in its best December 5; the last of which we have discipline and training on the ship, estate. The executive officer was one of the ablest and most competent men in the navy, Lieutenant-Commander, now Adrairal, RICHARD WAINWRIGHT. The regulations in regard to paints and inflamulations in regard to paints and inflammables were, he testified, "strictly carno doubt read with satisfaction by the

has acquired a site on the North River
Representative Coudery present or voting 12
Representative Coudery absent or not voting 12
Representative Coudery ab Sketches of the bent plates and riven

bottom, had exploded under them.

Entered at the Post Office at New York as Second no men of a higher sense of honor, ever, modern buildings and a far cost- be within the jurisdiction of the Sixtyfor twenty-three days. In addition to estimation of medical authorities. caused by a submarine mine, it found BARD, who was chiefly instrumental in tions of the highest privilege and have Huntington to offer New York three won-An energy, money orders, &c., to be made pay- gard to the care and safety of the ship of the eighteenth century, had in 1750 cept motions to adjourn. ties, to the commanding officer." There Hospital is a historic institution in Amer-London office, Foundation House, LArundel street, temperature of the magazine and shell New Yorker shares with its governors The daily and Sunday Sun are on sele in rooms and the coal bunkers, as to the their expectations of larger usefulness Carlon street, Regent street, and Daw's Steamship care of the dry guncotton primers and for the hospital in the new site. detonators, and the varnishes, driers, Sunday editions are on sale at Klosque 12, near the tion of the boilers. Divers, like other Grand Hotel, Klosque 77, Boulevard des Capuelnes, men, may be mistaken, and as the men, may be mistaken, and as the strongest argument in the case against a primary internal explosion was based our friends who favor us with manuscripts for upon the divers' reports of what they saw under water of the fractured. wrenched and bent plates of the Maine, broken parts up in the plain light of day

placed in position for scratiny by engi- In the meanwhile unofficial opinions neers and constructors, the discovery deduced from fragmentary items of this extract from the legislative, execuhas already been made by those not news that come up from the harbor tive and judicial appropriation bill: officially connected with the work that mud will have no weight with those recently and have an intimate knowledge of the ber of the court, entertains no doubt of work of raising the battleship, it is learned, agree | the correctness of the findings, although that the destruction of the Maine was due to the he has always advocated the raising of exploding of one of the airtight compartments the Maine to obtain proof of the cause usel for the storage of ammunition. This theory of the disaster that will satisfy the

The German Theatre.

Once more there will be an attempt to revive the glories of the German theatre The wreck of the Maine should have tious and artistic effort to accomplish tained by chairman. Specialists then been removed long ago from the chan-this result failed completely, although sustained by amendment of Norris of nel because, if for no other reason, it there were many conditions in its favor, Nebraska, who substituted the improvpresumption is that an examination of petent company did not avail. The higher education, moral education ["inthe shattered hull, when it is exposed Garden Theatre is to be utilized for the dustrial education" subsequently added to view, will establish the cause of the next effort to raise the standard of by amendment of Wilson of Pennsyldestruction of the ship; but it is not a German performances to something vania] and school hygiene, \$3,000. foregone conclusion. The naval court like their old time level. The presence TAWNEY uttered ancient blasphemies: of inquiry in 1898 found, on ample and of ERNST VON POSSART in the company

ruary 15 before the Maine went down be subjected to one serious discourage- of the States themselves. Let the States, there-"The first explosion was more in the nature of young who have not yet learned the Federal Government takes over that control and a report like that of a gun, while the second ex English language sufficiently well to supervision, and when the children in municipalvolume. This second explosion was, in the opin who came to this country too old to fon of the court, caused by the partial explosion learn it. So soon as the attraction of as the teachers are now, when those in charge of the English speaking theatres has be-It is not a new discovery that the loses a patron. Only when there are will discover that they have surrendered one of Maine was actually destroyed by an performances sufficiently engaging to their most important rights—the right of local selfinternal explosion. The question is draw the English speaking public as government in respect to the education of their whether the first explosion was external or internal. From the deck of the steamship City of Washington, anchored such professional or internal or internal or internal or internal. From the deck of the steamship City of Washington, anchored such professional or include the children and they will then realize their mistake. This proposition is merely the entering wedge. steamship City of Washington, anchored Such performances must include the opposed going beyond the letter of the statute services of distinguished stars or the which created the Bureau of Education and devanted and that is one reason why I have necessary to collect stars.

scribed a first explosion as having the to struggle against the almost complete dearth of eminent players of the throughout the United States. I maintain. Mr. player of theatres by a single manager or "I saw the bow of the Maine rise a little, go a kind that used to delight the English Chairman, that this proposition ought to be de- bers of theatres by a single manager of little out of the water. It couldn't have been spectators at German performances feated now that it has been enlarged as it has, for syndicate has led to methods of manage more than a few seconds after that noise, that given by MARIE GEISTINGER, LEDWIG that reason. There is no function of our Government similar to those used by manufacturers that reason. There is no function of our Government similar to those used by manufacturers that reason. There is no function of our Government similar to those used by manufacturers that reason. There is no function of our Government similar to those used by manufacturers of shoes, candy, fill or what not. shot, that there came in the centre of the ship a BARNAY, GEORG ENGELS, and JOSEF ment that authorizes Congress to appropriate terrible mass of fire and explosion, and everything barnay. Georg Engers, and Josef money or to authorize activities on the part of any bureau of education that will in any way infringe for as mere commodities, "handled" not tell what it was, it was all black. Then we tria and robbed the German stage of upon the right of the States, and when this deheard a noise of failing material on the place where its most distinguished son. There are mand comes, as it does, from the Educational As no more stars of that calibre, if we ex- sociation and from the superintendents of the Mr. LOUIS WERTHEIMER, also a to- cept AGNES SORMA, who conquered the States, it comes merely because they seek to unbacco merchant, who was with Mr. American public on her previous visits load onto the Federal Government the expense of ROTHSCHILD on the stern of the City of here as few actresses playing in a for-Washington at the time, confirmed his eign tongue have ever done. Of this story of the two reports, the last causing galaxy the most brilliant member is an "upheaval," so that "the air was black just now acting in New York, and his fused to reelect a Representative so false with flying objects." Captain FREDER- presence has doubtless been the inspi- to the doctrine of the Federal All-Power. ICK G. TEASDALE of the British bark ration for the opening of the new thea-

explosion" which sent particles and ous actors that has increased the diffidébris "150 or 160 feet up in the air." culties of the manager of such a theatre. Government shall develop the question of ladus-The evidence upon which the court The German drama of the day does not trial education or of school hygiene or of rural based its finding that the first explosion appeal with special force to even those education, it means the building up of a new was of a submarine nature divers in the theatregoers cultivated enough to enjoy naval service and other divers employed representations in a foreign tongue, by a wrecking company supplied. The Many of the plays are translations of piquant French farces or are of the same brand, although made in Germany. reversed V shape (A), the after wing of which. Others are rather uninspiring studies of about fifteen feet broad and thirty two feet in social topics that are likely to be inter- | Federal education: length (from frame 17 to frame 25), is doubled esting only to Germany. So there had back upon itself against the continuation of the been little room for a German playhouse in New York for some time.

It would be vain to say that the recent different days to examine the shattered representations in this language have hull on the bottom, and they climbed been of a character to attract exacting SON, who made sketches of the bent left the more recent German drama of a serious character practically untouched of the divers, some of whom had had So after all there may be a renaissance to be men of intelligence and responsi- some of the modern and characteristic MARCY COUDREY of the Twelfth Misnot to fit facts to any theory, but to bring are produced here by a good company. out the truth. The court also examined But the plays and the actors must be been twelve calls of the roll in the House

The New York Hospital.

The news that the New York Hospital or absence is concerned: miral RICHARD WAINWRIGHT. The reg- has acquired a site on the North River Representative COUDREY present or voting ried out." The discipline was "fine," many friends of that institution, the more singular when we remember that he said, "the crew were very obedient, oldest of its kind in the city. The new during the recess of Congress it was the very quiet men," An important wit- site, roomy, accessible, and with an Hon. HARRY M. COUDREY of the Twelfth King could us ness was Commander G. A. CONVERSE, ideal exposure, is eminently suited to Missouri district who occupied assidone of the highest authorities in the the purposes of a great hospital. The uously (with his typewriters, his card was not the only President to teach American. As indexes of eligibles, male and female, if write this a glance at headlines tells me that Mr.

The hospital there, when opened in

that a submarine mine, perhaps on the most luxurious and best equipped in vent his associates from considering The court was composed of Captain mired were two steam elevators, a scien- of the use of the House's letterhead in W. T. SAMPSON. Captain FRENCH E. tific heating and ventilating system, and the dissemination through the United CHADWICK and Lieutenant-Commander a spacious hall at the top of the build- States mails of exceptionally fine busi-WILLIAM P. POTTER. No more conser- ing, "separated from the sky only by ness propositions. For about eight vative and responsible officers, and a translucent canopy of glass." How- weeks longer Mr. Coudrey's case will could have been selected. The judge- lier equipment are now demanded if the first Congress. advocate was Lieutenant-Commander institution is to retain the position which

were strictly carried out," and that taken part in the first recorded dissecon the night of the destruction of the tion of the human body in America, and had been much testimony as to the ican medical progress, and every true!

Education.

of Federal interference in the business subject. of the several States, every sympathetic watcher of the long and sure to be successful effort of the Bureau of it is desirable to get the hull and its Education to swell itself into a depart-I ment, a purple and expensive Ministry Although the hull of the battleship deliberation, and a final and we hope the House of Representatives the other vana harbor and some time must clapse corded concerning the cause of the de- and retrogressists Tawney of Minne- keeping in harness to almost Ranke's age. sota and MANN of Illinois. MANN made a point of order on the words italicized in

" Bureau of Education: Commissioner of Educa the explosion that desir wed the Vaine who know the personnel of the original tion, shows chief clerk, \$2,000; specialist in higher was internal. The Washington Post says havel court and how painstaking its education, specialist in rural education, specialist inquiry was. It is to be noted that in school hygiene, at \$3,000 each; editor, \$2,000 Admiral CHADWICK, a surviving mem- statistician, \$1.800; specialist in charge of land grant college statistics, \$1.500; translator, \$1.500 collector and compiler of statistics, \$2,400; spe clasist in foreign educational systems, \$1.500 specialist in educational systems, \$1,800; two clerk of class 4; three clerks of class 3; four clerks of class 2: eight clerks of class 1: seven cleries, at \$1,000 each; six copyists; two copyists, at \$500 each; copyist, \$720; two skilled laborers, at \$840 each messenger; assistant messenger; three laborers at \$450 each: laborer, \$100: in all. \$72,500."

Not warranted by existing law, the

" If our schools are inefficient, if our school sys tems are defective. It is not the fault of Congress nor of the general Government. It is the fault ment. Its public must consist of the fore, correct these things themselves. When the gun to exert itself the German theatre the people in the local community, then the people fines its function, which is merely to collect sta exercising the functions and rights which belong exclusively to the States to perform."

No wonder TAWNEY's constituents re As for MANN, left clinging ridiculously to another point of order, he could only shout elementary sapience:

" If you undertake to say that the nationa division in each branch in this office of the Commissioner of Education. They have been seeking for this power for years."

And they get it and they will get more. all they want. Even the cantankerous MANN has to admit the triumphs of

"The office of the Commissioner of Education was created years ago. There was nothing for it to do and they hunted around until they got to the raising of reindeer in Alaska, and the principal good work which has been done by that offic since it was created was in reference to raising reindeer in Alaska."

It can raise appropriations even better than it raised reindeer.

Rule IX.

What has become of the Hon. HARRY souri district?

Since this session began there have record was on January 9. We summarize the results of the twelve roll calls so far as the Hon. Mr. COUDREY's presence

We hope that the continued absence keel being shown to him, he averred 1877, was regarded as "probably the of the Hon. Mr. Couder will not pre-

the world." Among the novelties ad- the general question of the propriety

Under Rule IX. of the House of Rep-ADOLPH MARIX, a man of unusual pro- it had then held for several genera- resentatives, questions affecting the Metropolitan Museum melted away like fessional attainments. The court sat tions both at home and abroad in the dignity of that body collectively and butter in the sun rays of righteous the conduct of members individually in critical wrath. It remained for Mrs. finding that the first explosion was The distinguished physician, Dr. John their representative capacity are ques- Collis P. Huntington and Mr. Archer M. that "all orders and regulations in re- founding the hospital toward the close precedence over all other questions ex-

Maine everything had been reported the regard for scientific research which scholars that Germany produced in the Mahomet has come to the mountain, and secure for the night at 8 P. M. by relia- he infused into the management has re- nineteenth century, the men who put to- the mountain, when it is in the adventurble persons, through the proper authori- mained undiminished. The New York gether definitely the rich material for ous ambulatory mood, may visit the Hisother scholars to work on and whose panic Museum and there enjoy the mas-names stand for accepted authority, ter of masters—Greco, Murillo, Miranda, ROCHUS, Freiherr von LILIENCRON, has Goya-Velasquez. completed his ninetieth year, and with it the great task he had undertaken. Fifty trait of the Count-Duke (Conde-Duque) years ago his best known work, the crit- of Olivares, whose name was Don Gaspar alcohol and waste, and as to the condiestablished his reputation among the who made him Duke of San Lucar.

so that the experts may examine it with of Education, rejoices in the defeat in France. For forty years he directed the royal effigy with evil companions Maine still remains in the mud of Ha- conclusive official decision may be re- day of those curmudgeonly cheeseparers another, and he has lived to see it finished. plunged the country into profound poverty, titled "Auberge de l'Ecu de France."

> Reports more discouraging to those who had looked for an uplift in polite villainy through the generous efforts of the stage come from the scene of the latest train robbing exploit in the Rockies. After many years of glorification of RAFFLES. money and diamonds, we find that two mountain members of the profession levied their tribute upon the passengers with a

coarse disregard of delicacy.

They injured some of their victims, shot at the train crew, and even struck : baby. One little gleam of light shines in this misadventure; a New York woman whose rings were snatched from her fin gers heard the robber murmur, "Beg pardon, lady, but we are in somewhat of a hurry." More consideration than she was hurry." in this town. Three years ago an ambi- specialists, said Mr. Mann. Point sus- accustomed to in a subway rush hour, but not enough to mark an uplift in highway robbery. Is it possible that the examples in good breeding and refinement of was an obstruction to navigation. The A new and attractive house and a commethods offered by RAFFLES, ARSENE to naught?

> The Hon. JOHN R. THATER is the pride of the Worcester Fur Club. His voice can be heard from Tatnick to Shall-I-Go-Naked on a clear day. If the Massachusetts Democrats want him as their candidate for Senator in Congress he is as resonant and vocipotent a candidate as they are likely to find. Only one mystery about him. What does his "R." for? JOHN R. never would reveal it at New Haven, we believe. The Yale cataenjoy the local playhouses, or of persons who came to this country too old to of Federal inspectors appointed by some Federal of this country too old to of Federal inspectors appointed by some Federal ont. It has been variously guessed to be not. It has been variously guessed to be authority not taken from the body of the people REGINALD, RINALDO, ROLLO, RODOMONTE. Perhaps the veiled truth will now con

THE THEATRE.

Commercial Exploitation Blamed for Its State in America.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir in which he makes suggestions for the improvement of the theatre in this country In recent years managers have had usucal information regarding the progress of termed its minor defects. The fundamental be very little improvement until actors and plays are no longer bought or bargained steel rails or shoe leather.

Commercialization very readily explains the "star" system. Why employ a whole good actors drilled to coopera one indifferent tion when ficiently advertised will "draw" as well And why put on a serious dramatic work requiring much study, rehearsing and cordination when a slipshod "comedy" which can be put on quickly will drama' pay? Besides, "the public wants to be amused," so why bore it with well formed plays in which resort must be had to the English language instead of its slovenly easy going, easily understood vernacular?

with which the stage is flooded. Let some one who has the interests of the theatre at heart found a school in which the form and the methods of evolution which must inhere in the drama may be studied. With a little urging the modern playwright coul-be induced to forego the easily compose-slang and to study the language sufficiently to be able to express his thoughts in good

English.
But, first and foremost, commercialism will have to relax its throttling grasp on stage, playwrights and players. As for the last, I shall prophesy for them a welcome regeneration once individuality is allowed to assert itself in the theatre.

M. F. K.
NEW YORK, January 11.

THE AMERICAN LANGUAGE. Mr. Jacob Backes Discusses It and Plussing the Prescript.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In yester-day's SUN a gentleman rejoicing in the signatural obscurity of "G. C." refers to my representations late Collis P. Huntington. bout the American language with irrelevant re marks about my "Icelandic name" and about my "Icelandic and Persian idioms."

If "G. C." knew as much about America. Amer-

names and the American language as he would cognize that many names and strange appearing or strange sounding in York shire or Plymouth seem native and natural enough in New York. McCormick. O'Nelli. Schmidt. C" knows not that he knows all fired little before he applies for his naturalization papers.

If the American language is to him so difficult or so different from the near American or far from years, 1776 to 1783, learning American with Proessor Washington as tutor, and so thorough and you, when the course was completed

Coming down to the present day, Washington script and presumes to yield American integrity at the foreigners' feast. JACOB BACKES. NEW YORK, January 10,

AROUND THE GALLERIES.

Another Velasquez in town, and at the Hispanic Museum! Surely a new opera is more acclaimed than the advent of a pictorial masterpiece by the great Spaniard; although this patent fact need not unduly depress lovers of the beautiful in art. What chiefly impresses us is that a few might have been counted on one finger of one hand. Even the attributions at the is as rare in the market as the semi-mythical roc's egg. But taste and energy, backed by a generosity that never reckons The last survivor of the great historical the cost, have accomplished the miracle.

ical collection of German ballads from Guzman. He was born in 1587 and was He Germanists whom JAROB GRIMM inspired, was universally disliked, not alone because Every foe of economy, every friend and it remains the standard book on the of his haughty and overbearing manner, but because he was instinctively distrusted In 1870 he was appointed by the His- by the people-for once the majority was torical Commission at Munich to edit the in the right. Olivares was a despot, a "Allgemeine Deutsche Biographie," which corrupt politician, one who deliberately does for the German lands what the "Na- sought to debauch the weak King in body tional Biography" does for Great Britain and mind. He kept the truth from him work as the volumes slowly followed one sapped his health and judgment. He and there was general rejoicing when he The subdued gorgeousness of the hues, fell from power in 1613. scurity in 1615, the perfect type of the unscrupulous politician. But he did at dames into the inn, executed with a flowevil reign; he introduced the young Velasquez, half Spanish, half Portuguese, to the King. Evidently the painter was The Clays marine and the Schreyers are who instituted evening dress and refined grateful, for he painted several portraits methods for relieving a waiting world of of the big, truculent Prime Minister, and one of them hung for years in Dorchester House, the property of Captain Holford.

Senor Beruete in his classical study of

Velasquez did not fail to discuss this pict-

ure, which is 871/4 by 541/4 inches. Beruete

observes that "the Count-Duke of Olivares, who next to the King was the most powerful man in the kingdom, was always a zealous protector of Velasquez from the time when his good offices gained admission for him into the palace until his disastrous policy led to his own downfall. Velasquez has transmitted to us the characteristic features of his physiognomy. The first of these portraits, in which the Count-Duke appears younger than in the others, which recalls by its style those which Velasquez painted on his arrival in Madrid, is at Dorchester House. It is columns. It is a page exposed in the day, who old neighborhood, and among them was of Olivares. There is in existence a copy itude, but his face illuminated by the seri- I recollect right the New York Post Office though with some variations, belonging to Mr. Edward Huth, which was shown at the exhibition of Spanish art held in at that in the Guildhall in 1961, when I work of some pupil, very closely copied canvas. from the one at Dorchester House, which is authentic. Olivares is standing, enight hand rests on a table covered by red Harry Jacobs in The Sun his office as Master of the Horse. The had Remington, George Inness, Jr ; J. Francis the majestic attitude of the man, so well timate collection. poised, and the outline of his characteristic figure, amply show the keen study made by Velasquez of his model in order to give it the tone of grandeur which it

The defects noted by Beruete have been remedied. The sunken colors have been fortified, the canvas has been cleansed and there is enough varnish to make the describes have given place to dark browns; breeches remain black. The composition is almost pyramidal, the figure is firmly planted on its legs, the the baton tell the story of the man's imperious temperament. He has a cun-Perhaps a more crying need than a imperious temperament. He has a cunschool for actors is a school for playing eye, a square forehead, and a mouth wrights as is indicated by the formless plays that betrays arrogance, conscious power and a love of the good things of life (not omitting the evil). Seen across the aroused that a solidly constructed human inhabits the habiliments of ceremony Mass and subtlety, humanity and beautiful paint, these are a few of the points of the new Huntington Velasquez. placing of the table, the spacing of the legs-both the wooden and the humanthe disposition of the drapery, the curtain which occupies the upper right side of the picture, together with the general fluidity of the atmosphere, are qualities that will fill painters and connoisseurs with perennial admiration. The work is presented to the Hispanic Museum by Mrs. C. P. Huntington in memory of the

It now occupies the place where hung the efflgy of the frail Duchess of Alba by Goya, which is moved to the left. Next to it is the famous Antonis Moro. knows about Iceland and Persia he and on the same line are the two other idioms Velasquezes: the portrait of Cardinal Pamphili, and the head-what a magical evocation-of the little Mazo girl, the out the truth. The court also examined But the plays and the actors must be been twelve calls of the roll in the House in New York. McCormick, O'Nelli, Schmidt, evocation—of the little Mazo girl, the officers and men who survived the disgood—better than they have been reaster, not only as to their recollections cently, perhaps even as good as they have been twelve calls of the roll in the House in New York. McCormick, O'Nelli, Schmidt, evocation—of the little Mazo girl, the officers and men who survived the disgonal daughter of Velasquez. There are asser, not only as to their recollections cently, perhaps even as good as they have yotes or to ascertain the existence schild. Moskowitz, Jansen are all good American other changes in the museum; portraits names if borne by good American men; and if by Sorolla y Bastida and Zuloaga fill the spaces between the arches of the reading about what America was discovered for, or about what the Declaration of Independence was signed room. Mr. Huntington has the original what the Deciaration of Independence was signed for, or about what Atlantic crossing steamers sketches made by Sorolla for the house of were invented for. But "G. C." may learn much Mr. Thomas F. Ryan; they depict scenes of the voyage of Columbus, and as may be well imagined are far from the decorative style of Puvis de Chavannes, though their

Dr. Leslie D. Ward of Newark, N. J. In fessor Washington as tutor, and so thorough and proficient was the instruction given that the great the meantime the collection is on view in various sizes, and any objection to their some King could understand American very well, thank at the American Art Galleries, Madison what homespun appearance might be overcome Square South, and makes an interesting showing. Like the Converse collection. that of Dr. Ward reveals less the amateur a practical demonstrator with heavy charges of nitroglycerine, dynamite become very valuable and may be sold and guncotton in mines and torpodoes.

Sketches of the best plates and six a practical demonstrator with heavy charges of nitroglycerine, dynamite become very valuable and may be sold whence all but him had fled.

The work and sketches indexes of engibles, male and female, and fixed to fixed the special results against at heading streets in metal from the latter of commander sims. The this a glance at headings the that Mr. aft has spoken in good unmistakable President's become very valuable and may be sold to the American to Commander Sims. Hats off, say I to the American to Commander Sims. Hats off, say I to the American to Commander Sims. Hats off, say I to the American to Commander Sims that off say I to the American to Commander Sims. Hats off, say I to the American to Commander Sims that off say I to the American to Commander Sims. Hats off, say I to the American to Commander Sims that off say I to the American to Commander Sims. Hats off, say I to the American to Commander Sims that off say I to the American to Commander Sims that off say I to the American to Commander Sims that off say I to the American to Commander Sims that off say I to the American to Commander Sims that off say I to the American to Commander Sims that off say I to the American to Commander Sims that off say I to the American to Commander Sims that off say I to the American to Commander Sims that off say I to the American to Commander Sims that off say I to the American to Commander Sims that off say I to the American to Commander Sims that off say I to the American to Commander Sims that off say I to the American to Commander Sims that off say I to the American to Commander Sims that off say I to the American to Commander Sims that off say I to the American to Commander Sims that off say I to the American to Commander Sims that off say I to the American to Commander Sims that off say I to the American to the American to the Si than the lover of canvases that appealed tatees to be used as emergency sheaths on h get the usual Ziem, Van Marcke, Meissonier, Vibert, Gérôme, Detaille, and a host of other little masters, all excellent and

enjoyable. Perhaps the chief foible of collector, if foible it may be called, was his fondness for cattle pieces, for dogs, sheep and donkeys. But his judg-ment in the matter of landscape did not

desert him; the best pictures are country views with an occasional seascane. The three Corots are small but prime and one of the three, while not in the usual years ago a genuine Velasquez in America beloved key of the master, is a beautiful It was my privilege to listen to those qua picture for all that. It is rather pathetic how the public clings to the Corot superstition that without his clear silver sky and leafy trees it is not a Corot to be unduly admired. A few years ago some of his figure subjects were at Durand-Ruel's, foreman of Guardian Engine Company "9 and you couldn't force the average picture lover to admit their merit. The best of This new Velasquez is a full length por-

There is a gracious Daubigny, a capital Diaz, several Jules Duprés, sensuous in a Dieterle (all in the family) and one of the and the "Biographie Universelle" for at all hazards, and by surrounding the most ingratiating Isabeys we have seen in helyears

It is No. 46 in the catalogue and is en-He died in ob- the gay scene; the sleek, contented landlord as he views the gallant escorting his least one good act in the heyday of his ing brush, the rhythms graceful as Monticelli, the tonalities not so lush-it is a picture that ought to please saint or sinner. characteristic, and you wonder how many Venices there are as you gaze at the precise presentation of Martin Rico and the too pretty aspects of Ziem. And then the great fun we used to have in those side Whistler came along and composed a new variation in that eternal tune of the "Carnival of Venice." Perhaps when we see the Monet Venice still another evocation

The "Neuhuys" is Josef Israels, but younger, and with far less ability. The two Israelses here are the work of a very old but by no means moribund artist. The Old Man Feeding a Cat," No. 53. is for a picture of the old Garry Gilbert place, veritable Israels in its sentiment and also which was situated on West Fourth street in its rather woolly paint. "Le Vieux Scribe. large Bouguereau, in a Fifth avenue gallery last season, and described in these columns. It is a page exposed in the daily had some rare and beautiful views of the tion of the Count of Altamira, a descendant sits over his scroll, the picture of decrepousness of his task, doubtless a pious one. There is not much substance to the figure. but atmosphere is the chief attraction. London in the winter of 1895-96 and also The old man may be engrossing parts of the Torah, or he may be a schatchen set- street. The building was had the opportunity of studying both ting down the terms of a marriage conportraits. This latter I believe is the tract. There is a haunting note in the latter days was moved around to face Charl-

It is rather strange to see a Fritz Thaulow which is not the rendering of a canal tirely dressed in black, wearing the green or a stretch of water between dull brick cross of the Order of Alcantara and a large cabins. He is represented here by the gold chain. His prominent forehead is front of St. Mark's at night, and a very entirely covered by a wig, an indispens-rich scheme he has made of it all, too able accessory in all the well known por- Oriental perhaps for reality. A marine raits by Velasquez of the Count-Duke by Alfred Stevens, the Belgian virtuoso His penetrating glance, very prominent of silks and satins and fashionable attinose, turned up mustache, and thin, con- tudes, is another novelty. A charming interesting bits of old New York. tracted upper lip, strike one at once. His work too. H. W. Mesdag, Jules Breton. Rosa Bonheur, two examples: Henner, cloth and holds a baton, the insignia of Harpignies, the Knights, father and son; southwest corner of Hudson and Vandam state of preservation of this portrait, Murphy, Anton Mauve, Madrazo, Gaston which was rather dirty, together with the La Touche, Jacque, Worms, and an Alexduiness of the varnish, led to its not be- ander H. Wyant that could almost pass ing properly appreciated when exhibited for a Corot-in mood at least-together the Guildhal!. Notwithstanding these with a few water colors and pastels, comdefects, which could be easily remedied, prise about all in this delightful and in-

IN THE BEAUCE VALLEY.

Where Real Pea Soup and Preserved Field Strawberries Are Found.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: ing only just returned from a sojourn of a week in the Beauce Valley, on the upper waters of the Chaudière River, I am full and there is enough varnish to make the composition brilliant. And brilliant it is stantial and mysterious diet indigenous Only the blacks that the Spanish critic to the famous old French Canadian rural county of Beauce. I stopped for a few days at a tavern on the old Kennebec road. Those ragouts, that pea soup, those preserved plums, preserved field strawbe covered with rich pure cream; the home grip of the thumb and index finger on made cheese; the kindly, witty old patriarch landlord presiding at his own board and invoking a good Catholic blessing: the old prospector, who went to California with Mark Twain and who still, though hoary with the frosts of many winters, fondly dreams of and hunts for the yellow metal in the waters of the Chaudière: the gallery the mass of the picture bulks French Canadian ex-member of Parlialargely, and the satisfying impression is ment, who comes many a mile to sit and laugh at the hospitable board: the fat cure, whose laugh is infectious; the spectacle pedier from Montreal, the old commercial traveller who has sold whips for fifty yearsall these are in my mind as I write The the two or three surreptitious drinks of Holland gin before the meal, when the ex-member of Parliament, warmed by their flers coursing down his throat, essays a fancy step or two of long ago, while he sings

> Do the bes' you can. Never let a woman Get the bes' of a man.

Give me the genuine French Canadian There was practically no pea soup. The soup plate or bowl is full Government in circulation. They have not been mashed or customed to the pasty soups of Broadway \$1.75 in order to provide fractional change knows not genuine North American pea in place of the Spanish and Mexican coins, soup. Come with me, poor creatures, where which had recently been ostracized. soup. Come with me, poor creatures, where it is made right: eat to repletion, and returning, say to the denizens of the Broadway canyon: "I have lived. I have eaten, not perhaps of fine china, not perhaps at tables covered by costly linens, but at an honest, skilful board covered with home made linens, where are good cheer, honest, hearty, uproarious laughter, and good foed; and where many a new story greeted my astonished ears.

to the denaturing of hatpins, may I suggest that a cork would make an effective sheath? Corks come by whittling them into the form of cherries, stray berries &c., and staining the proper cole

from puncture in crowded elevators tells me that he is carrying in his coat pocket a few small pe gear bayonets from which retreat is impossible An adequate emergency has not arisen since the new plan was adopted, so he is unable to report on
us working. WILLIAM W. HIGGINS. NEW YORK, January 11.

OLDER MANHATTAN.

The Crystal Palace Fire.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir Joseph Haydock at the close of his very interesting letter on the "Older Manhattan" speaks of M. Julien and his wonderful concerts at the Crystal Palace and how he sur when performing the Fireman's Quadrilles drilles and they were "something grand The Palace, however, didn't burn down evening, but one bright afternoon, October 14, 1858. An old fire laddie, I was present at that fire in company with Mr. Ely Bates, ex-chief, retired, and 84 years young, then

At that time we were working on the har gers Institute buildings, east side of Fifth the three Ward Corots is No. 34, "La avenue, directly opposite the old reservoir, Chaumière aux Sureaux, Normandie." It is lovely Corot, and not conventional Suddenly an immense, very black cloud of Corot either in pattern or treatment. He smoke and bright names shot up tuny may feet in the air. Bates should, "Come quick, wielded a fast, vigorous brush at times, boys: run for it!" His first impulse was to more than that vivacious little Croat it was 39 engine, both on exhibition. Quick Haydn was always the "Papa Haydn" of as we could we got outside of our overalls, slid the string quartets. No. 35, "Clairière," down four ladders and cut for the entrance on the Sixth avenue side; but good Lordy, is more in the arcadian key; No. 38, "A Read in the Forcet Ville d'Array" we never reached it, not by 100 feet, and Road in the Forest, Ville d'Avray," is a slighter performance, though beguiling. twenty minutes by the watch that elegant The seeming simplicity of the Corot har-monles often coversa vast deal of science. the ground. The rapidity of the flames was due principally to the large area of the floors and stairways, constructed of yellow pitch pine timber, and the great tone; a fine white and red ox by Troyon amount of combustible material the build that makes the Van Marcke cattle of the ing contained. So intense was the heat herd herdy; two admirable Fromentins- that the iron, glass, silver and other metals far superior in richness of quality both of fused; the large granite capstones of the them to the example hung in the Converse collection; some tiptop Van Marckes, and than beer kegs, falling to the earth. Mr. Bates yet insists it was the quickest, flercest and hottest fire that ever occurred in New

York city.
This Amity Hose carriage was a most beautiful creation, very light and airy. All the mountings were of sterling silver, even to the handles at the end of its tongue of one old fire fighter to his chum: "I soy Jakey, isn't she the queenie? All she needs is silver wings and she would fly." The engine was a good second at that.

Who remembers the large wooden observation tower said to be 150 feet in height in but which proved an utter failure, fer caring to climb its many steps? It steed just north of the Palace. And how about shows those days? Come on, boys, hang out your banners; the cry is still they come THE BRONK January 11

Another Greenwich Villager.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The letter of Ramon G. Crow on Greenwich Village interested me greatly, as I was born in the old American ward. Mr. Crow ask No. 71, was shown, as was the and not West Tenth and Charles streets Some time ago I recall attending a lecture at the New York Historical Society on Greenwich Village by a Mr. Burton, and he one of the Garry Gilbert house, was situated during the yellow fever in th

"T. W. W." speaks of the Charlton Street Theatre as occupying the site of Burr's house on Charlton street, near Varick Richmond Hill residence of Burr, and in its ton street and occupied as a theatre.

"W. D. S." places the old Spingler house on the northwest corner of Union Square and Fourteenth street. This is an error as it stood in the middle of the block, nex to Dr. Cheever's church. Who recalls the old Village House

corner of Bank and Hudson streets? Poole was a butcher across the way, and his house where he died is still standing on Christopher street, I think at 164. the old Greenwich Village is still full o

Speaking of the Aaron Burr house, I was told recently that the old building streets was the old barn belonging to the estate. It looks old enough to have been. NEW YORK, January 10.

Came to New York in '51.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Learner to New York in 1851. THE SUN, then under the management of Moses Y. Beach, was delivered at our home by the foreman of Old Hickory Jackson, No. 24, Seventeenth street and Ninth and Tenth avenues, Billy

The earliest parade of soldiers I recall was all the New York militia and others on the occasion of Henry Clay's birthday in 1853, when General Scott and Presiden Franklin Pierce rode at the head of the parade. Franklin Pierce was a splendid looking man, even if he was not a great

Later on there was a great civic and military parade in honor of the first Atlantic cable with a message from President Buchanan to Queen Victoria in August, 1857. Later came the passage of the Seventh Regiment down Broadway to the seat of war with but twenty-four hours notice in April, 1861.

The Palace Gardens on Fourteenth street Sixth and Seventh avenues, where the present armory is, were one of the sights when the balloons ascended from there, as they did also from Madison Square when the Hippodrome stood where the old Fifth Avenue Hotel stood later.

New York, January 9. active. I met Peter Cooper often, and N. P Willis also

Financial.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I will not confess to being "an old chap, to 1860 which have not been referred Before 1855 all our minor silver coins were of Spanish or Mexican mintage. They were in denomination "sixpence," "a shilling," or 'two shilling" pieces. Prices in all reta stores were stated in sixpences or shilling There was practically no mintage by our

After the panic of 1857 the banks issued a mess. The stranger ac- notes in denomination of \$1.25, \$1.50 and

At the outbreak of the civil war in 1861 gold and silver immediately commanded a premium and disappeared from circulation. Car fare and other small payments were made in United States postage stamps, which in the warm weather quickly became matted together and so soiled as to be almost indistinguishable. As a remedy warm and the state of the and where many a new story greeted my astonished ears.

Those preserved plums and strawberries smothered in thick cream: the home made cheese, the nip of gin, where are they to be found?

He who seeks shall find. Take the trains as far as they will carry you, and then it is only a drive of a few miles along the shores of the Chaudiere, the cold descending winter's sun will guide you on your way to Heart's Ease Tavern on the Chaudiere.

OTTAWA, Canada, January S.

Protection From Hatpins.

To the Editor of the Sun—sir: With regard of the denaturing of hatpins, may I suggest that a ork would make an effective sheath? Corks come tax rous sizes, and any objection to their some-hat homespun appearance might be over-

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Can any the veterans who have lived and thrived on changes from old New York to the new remi as to any of the old fashioned windmills, severa of which in the earlier days adorned Manhattan island and vicinity? Who can remember secina was pulled down, and where tolerably fair view or descriptions of any of them may be seen or

PHILADELPHIA, January 11.